#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

#### HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #71A-14 Building Date: 1830's, 1890's

Building Name: Bowie-Arnold House

Location: 4311 Church Road, Bowie, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

#### Description

The Bowie-Arnold House is a multi-part brick dwelling, which incorporates several examples of early nineteenth century interior trim. The main block is two and one half stories, sidegabled and built of brick covered with cream-colored stucco; its plan consists of a side stairhall and single parlor, but the lower wing adds a second parlor east of the stairhall, giving the dwelling the traditional I-house form. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash, and have black louvered wood shutters; the boxed molded cornice is returned at the east and west gable ends. Extending to the east is a two-and-one-half story wing; it is flush with both the north and south elevations of the main block, but the ridge of its roof is slightly lower than that of the main block. Extending north from the east wing is a later gable-roof kitchen wing. Interior trim in the main block and east wing are typical of the early nineteenth century. The stair is transitional Federal-Greek Revival in style, with graceful slim newels and plain rectangular balusters; wood mantels in the parlors are Greek Revival in style. A large bank barn stands to the east; its framing components are hewn, and the mortise and tenon joins are pegged.

#### Significance

The Bowie-Arnold House and Farm is representative of a working plantation/farm of the nineteenth century, including a fine example of a bank barn and of a plantation dwelling which retains early nineteenth century trim. It stands on part of Darnall's Grove, purchased in 1819 by William Bowie of neighboring Fairview. Bowie died in 1826, leaving Fairview to his children; the subject house was built circa 1832 for his widow. Anne. on the property allotted to her from his estate. Anne Bowie lived the rest of her life in this house; transitional in style, it incorporated decorative elements of the late Federal and early Greek Revival style. The farm was sold in 1890 to Calvin Arnold and it was during the Arnold family residence that the kitchen wing was built; it is likely that the Arnolds rebuilt the early nineteenth-century bank barn. The Bowie-Arnold House has the appearance of a modern dwelling, but within its streamlined stucco shell are some fine elements of early nineteenth century trim. The bank barn is one of only three in Prince George's County, is distinguished by its painted "windows" and its prominent foundation of local sandstone. These buildings form a visual reminder of an early nineteenth century agricultural complex, associated with one of Prince George's County's most influential families.

Acreage: 13.968 acres

Survey	No.	P.G.#71A-14

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## Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

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### 7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #71A-14

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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Bowie-Arnold House is a multi-part brick dwelling, which incorporates several examples of early nineteenth century interior trim. Its plain stuccoed surface and somewhat modernized exterior disguise some fine early interior detail. Also on the property stand a large gable-roof bank barn, an ice-house, and a modern garage structure.

The 14-acre parcel of land in which these buildings stand is part of a larger farm; the parcel fronts on Church Road, and the house is accessible by a long unpaved lane which leads eastward through two sets of gateposts constructed of local ironbearing sandstone. The house is built of brick and sidegabled, and consists of a main block, with a slightly lower wing, to which has been added a kitchen ell.

The main block is two and one half stories, sidegabled and built of brick covered with cream-colored stucco. It is three bays by two, with entrance in the third bay of the three-bay principal south facade. Plan of the main block consists of a side stairhall and single (west) parlor, but the lower wing adds a second parlor on the east side of the stairhall, giving the dwelling the traditional I-house form.

Entrance to the main block is through a small gable-front entry vestibule, which encloses the central bay and which was created from an original entry porch. The front gable of the entry vestibule is embellished with a pediment formed by moldings. The four-panel door has been moved forward to form an entrance to the vestibule; it has a four-light transom and an old, probably original, box lock. The stuccoed walls of the vestibule are decorated with three pairs of shallow pilasters, flanking the door, at the corners and at the intersection of the vestibule and the principle south wall of the house. The streamlined form of the entry vestibule tends to give the building a modern appearance.

Windows are 6/6 double hung sash, and have narrow molded surrounds. The windows in the first and second bays of the main south facade are positioned closer together, lighting the parlor on the west side of the stairhall. All windows have louvered wood shutters, painted black. The gable roof is covered with gray asbestos shingle, and the boxed molded cornice is returned at the east and west gable ends. There is an exterior brick chimney centered at the west gable end, it has weatherings at second story level. This stucco-covered chimney is presently enclosed by a one-story hip-roof porch; this west porch is screen-enclosed, panelled and

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

pilastered. The only opening on the first story of the west gable end is a door north of the chimney which leads from the west parlor into this porch. There are no second-story windows in the west gable end, but two small square windows flank the chimney and light the loft at third level.

Extending to the east is a two-and-one-half story wing, almost certainly contemporary with the main block; the wing is flush with both the north and south elevations of the main block, but the ridge of its roof is slightly lower than that of the main block, thus adding variety to the lines of the building. The wing, which consists of one parlor to the east of the stairhall, is two bays by two. It is identical in decorative treatment to the main block; its brick walls are coated with cream colored stucco, windows are 6/6 with black louvered wood shutters, and its gable roof is covered with gray asbestos shingle. There is an exterior brick chimney centered in the east gable end; it has weatherings above the second story level. There is a 6/6 window at both first and second story level north of the chimney. As in the west gable end, the cornice is returned at the east gable end, enclosing two small louvered windows at loft level.

Extending north from this east wing, and flush with its east gable end, is a later gable-roof kitchen wing. It is two-and-one-half stories high, two bays by one, of the same materials and treatment as the main block and east wing. Two 6/6 windows (in the first bay of the east elevation and the first story window in the north gable end) are smaller, shorter than all of the others, and are probably modern. There is an interior stove chimney at the ridge at the north gable end; like the two main chimneys, it is coated with stucco. Sheltering the entrance to the kitchen in its east elevation is a one-story two-bay-wide hip-roof porch which rests on concrete piers. It is enclosed, on the north, forming a pantry/storage room, and shaded with lattice on the south. The porch is accessible by a flight of wooden steps with metal rail.

There is a small gable-roof belfry perched at the ridge of the roof where the kitchen addition joins the east wing. It is an open structure, adorned with plain stick-style brackets, painted the same cream color as the stucco of the main house.

The house rests on a brick foundation which encloses a full basement beneath the main block and wing; it is entered by means of a bulkhead door just south of the east chimney. The kitchen wing rests on a high foundation at its north gable end; a small front-gabled entry built of wood leads from the north into this ground level storage space.

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 3

Interior of the main block consists of a parlor on the west which adjoins a spacious stairhall on the east. The east wing does not share the same ridgeline, but it adds a parlor on the other side of the stairhall, giving the house the same plan as the traditional I-house. Interior trim in the main block and east wing are typical of the early nineteenth century. The open-string stair rises along the east wall of the stairhall to a landing which is partly lighted by the lower sash of a second-story window; the stair turns 180° and rises to the second story. The stair continues to the shallow third story, with the upper landing lighted by the upper sash of the same second-story window. The stair has a graceful slim turned newel, repeated at the landings and upper floors; balusters are plain rectangular, the stairends have a simple applied scallop decoration, and the spandrel is panelled. The fine detail of the staircase, transitional Federal-Greek Revival in style, is repeated all the way to the third story. The wood mantels in the two parlors are Greek Revival in style, with molded pilasters framing the firebox, and rectangular molded panels at the ends of the plain frieze, beneath a shelf of bold Greek profile. Door and window surrounds consist of plain board with a single groove, and small stencilled corner blocks, similar in type through simpler than the trim at the Crandell-Rothstein House (79-27) from the 1840's, and Pleasant Hills (82A-2) from the late 1830's. Floorboards are of random width, wide, and probably original; base boards are high with crown molding. The west parlor is further embellished with a pedestal chairrail and a narrow molded wood cornice at the ceiling. east parlor has a similar cornice, but has an unusual additional detail: the mantel is flanked by two slim floor-to-ceiling fluted wood pilasters. applied upon (i.e., after the installation of) the cornice and baseboard. These pilasters have interesting and unusual stop-fluting to approximately one third of their height, each stop-flute ending in a series of four beads of decreasing size.

Interior trim in the north kitchen wing is later in style: multi-band molding with bullseye corner blocks. Only one sill beam could be observed in the basement under the main block; it is hand hewn. Attic beams can be observed in the interior wall; they are hand hewn and pegged.

There are three outbuildings on the immediate grounds: a modern garage, and an older ice house and bank barn. The concrete-block garage stands immediately east of the house; it is open on its south side. To the southeast, on the south side of the unpaved drive is a front-gabled carriage house/ice house, now used as a mower shop. It is built into a slope, and stands on a high foundation of local ironbearing stone. It is sided with German siding painted cream color, entrance is into its north gable end, and its gable roof is covered with bright green corrugated

#### MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Description (continued)

Survey No. P.G. #71A-14

Section 7 Page 4

synthetic material. Its stone foundation is fully exposed on the south side, and encloses a pit originally used for ice storage.

A large, long side-gabled bank barn stands farther to the east. It rests on a heavy foundation of local ironbearing sandstone, is sided with plain (circular-sawn) vertical board painted red, and its roof is covered—with corrugated metal. Framing components are hewn, and the mortise and tenon joins are pegged. The lower level, entered from a paddock to the east, consists of stables for horses. The upper level, entered at grade from the west and once used for storage of hay, is now used for equipment storage. On all four elevations of the barn (and in particular the south gable end), imitation round-arch windows are painted in white. There is a low shed-roof shed built onto each gable end of the barn.

The Bowie-Arnold House stands on a slight knoll in level farmland. The grounds are marked by two sets of stone gate posts, brick walkways around the house, and handsome boxwood plantings to the south and west of the house. The house is framed by old walnut trees.

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The Bowie-Arnold House and Farm is representative of a working plantation/farm of the nineteenth century, including a fine example of a bank barn and of a plantation dwelling which retains early nineteenth century trim. It was built for members of the Bowie family, one of Prince George's County's most prominent families.

The Bowie-Arnold Farm stands on part of Darnall's Grove, a large early tract which was located in the agriculturally rich east-central section of the County known as "The Forest". In 1819, William Bowie purchased from the Norwood family 460 acres of Darnall's Grove which adjoined his plantation, Fairview. 1 Bowie had inherited Fairview, located in the western part of Darnall's Grove, through the family of his wife, Catherine Duckett. The newly purchased Norwood farm lay immediately to the east of Fairview, on the other side of the Old Church road which ran between St. Barnabas' Church and its chapel-of-ease (now known as Holy Trinity).<sup>2</sup> In the same year, 1819, Catherine Duckett Bowie died, leaving her husband and four children (William D., Eliza, Walter B., and Catherine) at Fairview; in 1822 William Bowie took a second wife, Anne Mullikin, and they had one more son, Richard. When, only four years later, William Bowie died, he devised Fairview to his second son, Walter Baruch Bowie, with the understanding that Fairview would remain the home of all of his children, and of his second wife, Anne, until Walter B. Bowie attained his majority in 1832. His widow, Anne, would then inherit the Norwood farm, which after her death would pass to her son, Richard.<sup>3</sup> (William Bowie's eldest son, William Duckett Bowie, had already married, and had made his home at a nearby plantation which he had inherited from his grandfather, Baruch Duckett.)

Walter B. Bowie died in 1831 before the age of 21; the Fairview property which would have become his passed to his elder brother, William D. Bowie, who then moved his family into the house at Fairview. Only shortly thereafter, in 1832, Richard Bowie also died, leaving to William D. Bowie, the remainder rights to the Norwood farm after the death of Anne Mullikin Bowie. It was at approximately this time, that the subject house

was built for the widow Anne M. Bowie, on the property allotted to her from her husband's estate. It was also at this time that she was married for a second time, to Charles Worthington.<sup>4</sup>

Anne Bowie Worthington lived the rest of her life in the subject house, a representative example of a modest but fine small plantation house; transitional in style, it incorporated decorative elements of the late Federal and early Greek Revival style. When Anne Worthington died in 1871, her property reverted to her step-son, William D. Bowie, 5 and he sold it in 1872 to his second son, William D. Bowie, Jr. 6 The younger Bowie mortgaged the property, but defaulted on payments, and the property was sold in 1879 to his older brother, Governor Oden Bowie. 7

Oden Bowie sold the farm in 1890 to Calvin Arnold of Frederick County. 8 It was almost certainly during the Arnold family residence that the kitchen wing was built, adding increased living space for this large family; it is likely also that the Arnolds rebuilt the nineteenth-century bank barn, adding new siding and painted "windows". During the Arnold family tenure, this 284-acre farm was sometimes known as Elverton Hall, a name which actually pertained to the adjoining plantation/farm to the south.9

This enlarged house remained the home of the Arnold family until 1941. Calvin Arnold farmed the land until 1929 when he retired and moved to a dwelling in Seat Pleasant; two of his sons continued to farm the land (by then 284 acres), and lived in the main house and in a small tenant house circa 1/3 mile to the east. Calvin Arnold died in 1940; his will devised the farm to his (second) wife and thirteen children, and they applied to the Equity Court for sale of the property. 10 It was sold in 1941, and in 1947 was sold to Ralph de Clairmont, whose heirs own the farm (in 10 parcels) today. 11 The 14-acre parcel on which the house and bank barn stand is now in use by a landscaping company.

The Bowie-Arnold House gives the appearance of a modern dwelling, largely because of its streamlined stucco covering and the twentieth-century entry vestibule. Within this shell, however, are some fine elements of early nineteenth century trim, in particular the staircase, the mantels and moldings. The bank barn is one of only three in Prince George's County; it is an outstanding example of its type, with stables on the lower level and storage area above, and is distinguished by its painted "windows" and its prominent foundation of local sandstone. These buildings, together with the two sets of gateposts of the same local

stone, form a visible landmark in this level agricultural area. The farm is a visual reminder of an early nineteenth century agricultural complex, and is associated with one of Prince George's County's most influential families.

#### Notes

- 1 Prince George's County Deed AB#1:190
- <sup>2</sup> This road, which was in use from the early years of the eighteenth century, ran north from the main church of Queen Anne Parish (St. Barnabas' #79-59) to the chapel of ease at Collington (Holy Trinity #71A-9a). It is still known as Church Road.
- 3 Prince George's County Will TT#1:403
- 4 Prince George's County Equity #812; Chancery #5909; See also National Intelligencer obituary of Benjamin H. Mullikin, 13 October 1836.
- <sup>5</sup> William D. Bowie's first wife died in 1849. In 1854, he married her half-sister, and moved to her family estate, Bellefields near Croom; at the same time he deeded Fairview to his eldest son, Oden Bowie (later Governor), who remained at Fairview for the rest of his life (1894).
- 6 Prince George's County Deed HB #6:317
- 7 Prince George's County Deed WAJ #1:36; see also mortgage HB #7:220
- 8 Prince George's County Deed JWB #15:25
- <sup>9</sup> Elverton Hall, an elegant Federal style brick plantation house of the early nineteenth century, was the home of the Charles Hill family; it was destroyed in 1952.
- 10 Prince George's County Equity #11419
- 11 Prince George's County Deed #913:415; see also #623:464.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#71A-14

See Chain of Title

See Notes, Item #8

10. G	eographical Data		
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organization	Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commi		date May, 1989
street & num	ber c/o Area Plans E/S, M-NCP		telephone 952-3521
city or town	Upper Marlboro		state Maryland 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

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## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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The house is a two story, frame building covered with stucco. It was built in several sections. The west end is Greek Revival, with a three bay facade with the entrance in the east bay. The porch roof is pedimented with square columns; the boxed roof cornice is returned into the gable ends. The external chimney has a two story base. On the east end, a two bay section is also two stories. It has an external chimney on the east end; above the two-story base the weatherings taper to a stack.

To the north is a two story ell with an internal chimney on the north end.

East of the house is one of the few bankbarns in Prince George's County. It has a stone foundation and frame loft. The framing is hewn, mortised, tenoned, and pegged together.

There is a frame carriage house with a stone foundation.

On the downhill side, the foundation is exposed and an ice pit
is dug under the carriage house.

The meat house is frame with an "A" roof. East of the house is a frame tenant house with a large external chimney on the east end. The chimney has a stone base and brick stack.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA  LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY  CORNER LATITUDE LONGITUDE  Degrees Minutes Seconds NW O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	TUDE
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SW 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0	
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:	
Acreage Justification:	<del></del>
I T	
I. FORM PREPARED BY	
NAME AND TITLE:	
Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
	ept 74
STREET AND NUMBER:	
8787 Georgia Avenue	<del></del>
Silver Spring Maryland	
State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)	<del></del>
Significance of this property is:	
National State Local	
Signature	

Form 10-445 (5/62)

1. STATE Md. COUNTY P.G.

TOWN VICINITY #21&#21A street NO. Church r. ½mile south of rt. 50.

ORIGINAL OWNER

ORIGINAL USEPrivate dwelling

PRESENT OWNER
PRESENT USE
WALL CONSTRUCTION
NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

2. NAME Elverton Hall

DATE OR PERIOD Ca. 1810

STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

#21
Two hundred twenty acre estate in 1888.
Site is occupied by modern rambler.
Grounds well-kept.
Outbuilding remains, in 19th cent. condition.

#21A Elverton Farm
Location: Church rd. mile north of U.S.50
Presently owned by Fairmont.
original owner, Bowie family(?)
Presently used as a private dwelling

2½stories stucco. 1840. Well-kept, owner interested, no danger.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endongered

interio

Exterior

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

Cler # 755, 756

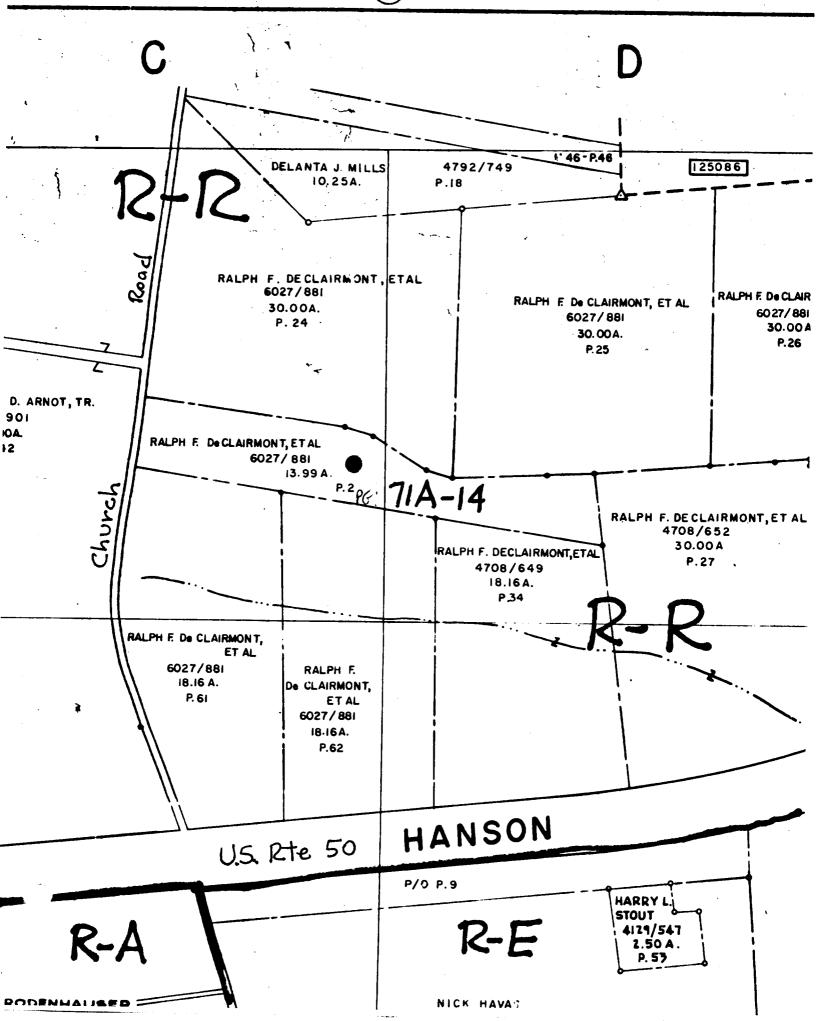
7. PHOTOGRAPH
9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

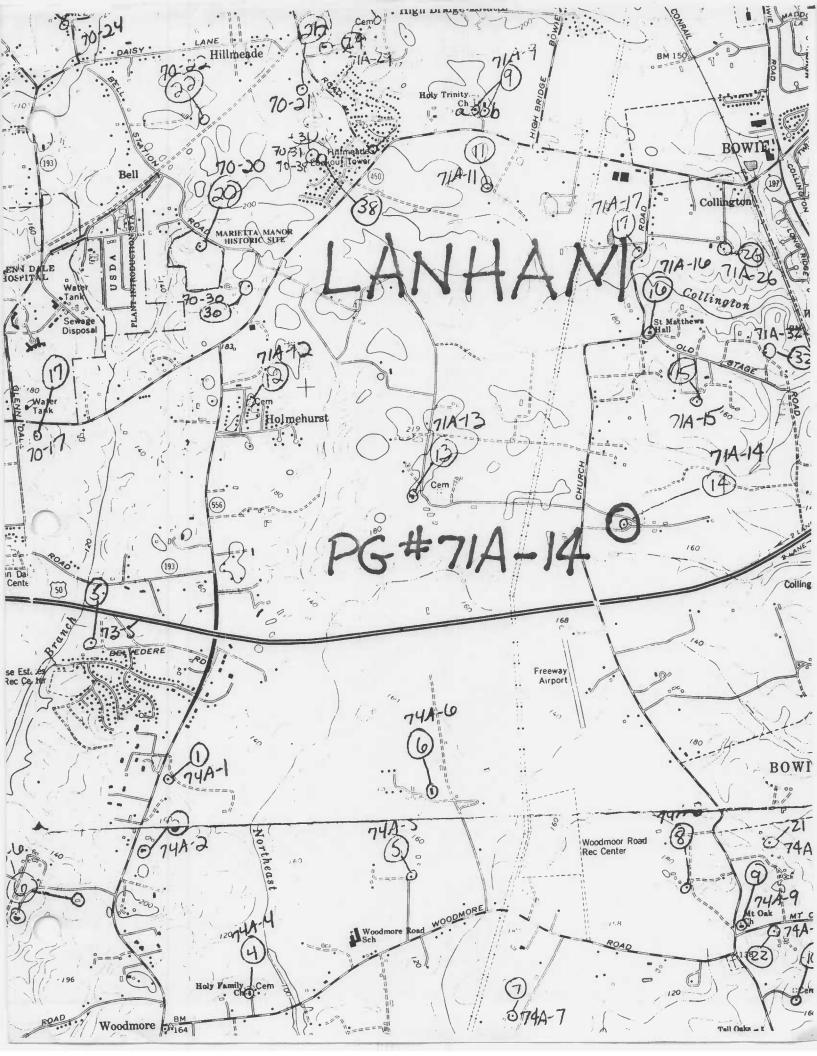
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

Bowie, 24, 279 (Elverton Hall)

Formen, Jez Ordas ve - 226,228 & profes

DATE OF RECORD







Boure Renge's Co. Md.

Prence Lenge's Co. Md.

Lessen L. Parl

February 1788

Louth elevator

The Md. Haris Theres, Unappelis, Md.

PG#41A-14

1 2/6



7. G. #11 A-14 Bowie - arnold House Prince Deorge's Co., Ind. Susan J. Pearl February 1988 East elevation Teg: Ind. Aut. Inust annapolis, Md.

20/6



Bouse - arnold House
Prince Deorge's Co., Md.
Lucy St. Heart
Jehrnary 1988
Stair, view to northeast
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust
annapolis, Md.



Bowie - arnold House
Prince Leorge's Co., Md.
Susan & Pearl
February 1988
Mantel, east parlor
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust
annapolis, Md.

40/6



P.G. # 11 A-14 Bowie - arnold House time Leonges Co. Md Lusan & Pearl Jely wary 1988 Tank born, view to northeast Neg: Md. Hist. Trust Runapolis, Md.

6-86



Bowie arnold House Prince Seorge's Co., Md. Susan D. Frail February 1988 Carlo burn, view from southeast Meg: Mr. Hist. Trust Cernapolis, and.

P.G # 11A-14

5 0/6



NAME ELUZIETON FARM

LOCATION CHURCH RD. BOWIE, MD.

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 9/23/74 M. DWYER



NAME ELVERTON FARM - BANK BARN P6:714-14

LOCATION CHURCH Rd BOWIE, Nd

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 9/23/74 MOWYER



NAME SWERTON FARM/TENANT HOUSE P6:7/A-14

LOCATION CHURCH PD. BOWISMD.

FACADE W

PHOTO TAKEN 9/23/74 M. DWYER.



NAME ELVERTON FARM - CARRIAGE + ICE HOUSE PG: 71A-14 LOCATION CHURCH Rd BOWIE, Md. EACADE NW

FRHOTO TAKEN 9/23/74 M DWYER